



# International Association of Fire Chiefs

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## Fire and Emergency Service Requirements

1. Immediate action by NIOSH to complete certification of chem/bio masks. Masks to be purchased by federal government and given to all fire departments in major cities, including all departments within 25 mile radius.
2. Assistance to Firefighter Program
  - Appropriate \$500 million FY 2002.
  - Increase reauthorization for FY 2003-2007 to \$5 billion [\$1 billion per year for five years].
  - Establish federal program to fund hiring 75,000 additional fire fighters.
3. Expand, upgrade USAR program
  - a. Establish a national collapse rescue program to supplement the current USAR program.
  - b. Move USAR, within FEMA, from Response and Recovery Directorate to USFA.
  - c. Appoint a fire service person to head Response and Recovery Directorate.
  - d. Develop a national Command Overhead Team response program.
4. USFA
  - a. Fill Administrator position immediately.
  - b. Retain current COO position.
5. Increase the number of Metropolitan Medical Response System teams and enhance their capabilities to deal with major incidents.
6. Communications
  - Radio spectrum interoperability for public safety - DoD to report progress on 138-144 MHz sharing by October 30, 2001.
  - Congress to require FCC to conduct a study of communications problems encountered in New York City and Arlington County, Virginia on the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist incidents and make recommendations to resolve the problems by March 30, 2002.
7. By statute, make FEMA the single point-of-contact for terrorism preparedness.
8. Increase funds for counterterrorism program to be directed specifically to the fire and emergency service. Return to two-tiered approach funding top population centers. Require an 80% pass-through for all federal funds passing through states for other than largest population centers.

September 20, 2001

9. Enhance Hazardous Materials response by passing five-year, \$10 million authorization for Operation Respond. Fund Operation Respond at \$2 million for FY 2002.